

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Public Documents of Maine:

BEING THE

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

PUBLIC OFFICERS AND INSTITUTIONS

FOR THE YEARS

1871-72.

AUGUSTA:

SPRAGUE, OWEN & NASH, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1872.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIQUOR COMMISSIONER

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1871.

AUGUSTA:

SPRAGUE, OWEN & NASH, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1872.



REPORT.

*To the Honorable Governor and
the Executive Council of Maine:*

My Annual Report of sales to cities and towns in this State for the year ending November 30th, 1871, is herewith respectfully submitted.

In presenting this report, I beg leave to notice that the total amount of sales is considerably less than during any year since the large advance in the price of liquors occasioned by increased revenue taxes. This diminution would be a gratifying fact were it an indication that the use of intoxicating liquors in our commonwealth was actually growing less. This, however, does not appear to be the case. From the number who have taken out wholesale and retail licenses—the amount of their sales reported to the Assessors of Internal Revenue and from other sources of information, the cost of liquors to consumers in this State the past year, considering its attendant evils, is truly appalling. Every good citizen will admit that evils so enormous ought to be abated.

It is expected that our Legislature at its ensuing session will review the liquor question in all its bearings, and if possible, provide for a more general and effectual enforcement of the laws of prohibition.

In a considerable number of towns it is represented by their municipal officers, that prohibition has been rigidly maintained for years in succession. But in most of our cities and in a large portion of the towns from reliable information, there has been very little restraint, and in many none at all. Town agents represent the illegal sale around them to have been so general that the demand at their agencies has become very greatly reduced.

This no doubt is the principal cause of the reduction of sales at this office. It is the fact, however, while, as it is believed, a majority of the agencies receive their supply wholly from the State commission and are conducted in a manner generally satisfactory

to those who have proper occasion to patronize them, that others, or liquor shops under the name of agencies, are carried on openly in violation of the law, either because of hostility to the law or with a view to the purchase and sale of that class of liquors, without regard to quality or purity, on which the largest profit can be obtained.

Runners from various liquor houses, in large numbers, are constantly visiting our leading towns, and in addition to their extensive sales to other parties, by bribes and various seductive measures, induce more or less of those who have the supervision of agencies to purchase the spurious articles offered them, and so more or less of our agencies become wholly perverted. This class of runners are doing immense mischief and ought to be restrained. Were they compelled to desist from their work, the purchase and consumption of liquors in this State would be diminished to a very large extent. A law is needed which could be easily applied and effect their hasty withdrawal from this field of operation.

However true it may be that the public welfare would be greatly promoted, were intoxicating liquors entirely banished from the community, it is apparent that we are not in very near approach to a public sentiment necessary to maintain total or absolute prohibition. We hope the good time is coming. But while the slow process is going on of educating the public mind up to this high standard, it is expedient to so regulate the mode of supplying the legitimate demand as will afford the least encouragement to the illegal traffic.

The omission to establish agencies in cities, and in towns of several hundred inhabitants, furnishes a strong temptation to open liquor shops in such cities and towns, as the parties doing so are well assured of the patronage, and consequently the countenance and support, of individuals from nearly all professions and classes in the community.

The law, as understood, allows of but one agency in any city or town. In some towns there are several villages distant from each other, and where there is but one agency in a city of any extent, or in a town of several villages, the inducement is very strong for those living distant from the agency to purchase at places nearer, where liquors are known to be kept, and to take the risk of the articles as to quality, however desirable it may be to have the purest and the best when wanted for medical use. Agents are required by the present law to keep a record of the names of all

purchasers and the use for which articles are bought, which record is to be open to inspection. This requirement, though but partially observed, is said to be almost universally objectionable. It is represented by agents and those who have the best opportunity of knowing, that this requirement leads many well-disposed persons, and large numbers of professed temperance people, to patronize the illegal traffic, who would much prefer to obtain at an agency their articles for medicinal and mechanical purposes, were it not for the great repugnance they feel to having their names and purchases thus recorded and open to public view. It is believed that the law might be so modified as largely to prevent so much encouragement to the illegal sale of liquors without opening a door to greater evils. I have been requested to bring these matters before the Legislature through some channel, and it seems to me they are of so much importance as to claim the consideration of those whose duty it is to legislate for the public welfare.

Statement of Sales to Cities and Towns for the year ending November 30, 1871.

Town of Albion.		City of Belfast.	
Cost of liquors	\$105 54	Cost of liquors.....	\$932 33
Kegs, trucking, &c.	5 70	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	6 30
Commissions	7 38	Commissions	65 27
	118 62		1,003 90
Town of Andover.		City of Bath.	
Cost of liquors.....	3 68	Cost of liquors.....	3,327 45
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	55	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	12 80
Commissions	25	Commissions	232 88
	4 48		3,573 13
Town of Anson.		Town of Buckfield.	
Cost of liquors.....	489 04	Cost of liquors.....	192 05
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	8 60	Commissions	13 44
Commissions	34 22		205 49
	531 86	Town of Bowdoin.	
Town of Appleton.		Cost of liquors.....	196 35
Cost of liquors.....	34 50	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	5 60
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	4 75	Commissions	13 72
Commissions	2 40		215 67
	41 65	Town of Belmont.	
Town of Athens.		Cost of liquors.....	448 85
Cost of liquors	137 15	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	12 45
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	1 95	Commissions	31 41
Commissions	9 60		492 71
	148 70	Town of Bowdoinham.	
City of Auburn.		Cost of liquors.....	698 74
Cost of liquors.....	1,966 06	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	26 77
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	22 35	Commissions	48 91
Commissions	137 62		774 42
	2,126 03		

Statement of Sales to Cities and Towns, (Continued.)

Town of Bethel.		Town of Carratunk.	
Cost of liquors.....	\$1,246 63	Cost of liquors.....	\$364 88
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	7 70	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	3 90
Commissions.....	87 36	Commissions.....	25 54
	1,341 69		394 32
Town of Brunswick.		Town of Canton.	
Cost of liquors.....	1,619 00	Cost of liquors.....	1,961 49
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	6 35	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	38 30
Commissions.....	113 30	Commissions.....	137 26
	1,738 65		2,137 05
Town of Bucksport.		Town of Cornville.	
Cost of liquors.....	1,821 56	Cost of liquors.....	161 05
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	17 85	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	40
Commissions.....	127 49	Commissions.....	11 27
	1,966 90		172 72
Town of Bingham.		Town of Camden.	
Cost of liquors.....	1,220 78	Cost of liquors.....	120 99
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	29 10	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	2 30
Commissions.....	85 44	Commissions.....	8 47
	1,335 32		131 76
Town of Burnham.		Town of Chesterville.	
Cost of liquors.....	128 69	Cost of liquors.....	498 90
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	4 00	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	6 30
Commissions.....	9 00	Commissions.....	34 93
	141 69		540 13
Town of Bradford.		Town of Cherryfield.	
Cost of liquors.....	124 90	Cost of liquors.....	1,002 53
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	2 65	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	15 51
Commissions.....	8 74	Commissions.....	70 17
	136 29		1,088 21
Town of Belgrade.		Town of Detroit.	
Cost of liquors.....	247 47	Cost of liquors.....	603 88
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	4 80	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	11 10
Commissions.....	17 32	Commissions.....	42 25
	269 59		657 23
City of Bangor.		Town of Dover.	
Cost of liquors.....	1,971 79	Cost of liquors.....	483 69
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	8 05	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	13 50
Commissions.....	120 61	Commissions.....	33 84
	2,100 45		531 03
Town of Columbia Falls.		Town of Damariseotta.	
Cost of liquors.....	439 27	Cost of liquors.....	830 11
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	15 55	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	10 25
Commissions.....	30 71	Commissions.....	58 11
	485 53		898 47
Town of Cornish.		Town of Dexter.	
Cost of liquors.....	943 50	Cost of liquors.....	869 60
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	3 20	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	14 65
Commissions.....	66 04	Commissions.....	60 86
	1,012 74		945 11
Town of Canaan.		Town of Dixfield.	
Cost of liquors.....	844 61	Cost of liquors.....	1,040 98
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	1 80	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	12 55
Commissions.....	59 06	Commissions.....	72 86
	905 47		1,126 39

Statement of Sales to Cities and Towns, (Continued.)

Town of Denmark.		Town of Franklin.	
Cost of liquors.....	\$51 63	Cost of liquors.....	\$158 85
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	2 80	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	10 61
Commissions.....	3 62	Commissions.....	11 11
	58 05		180 57
City of Ellsworth.		Town of Fairfield.	
Cost of liquors.....	380 45	Cost of liquors.....	541 77
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	9 55	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	10 90
Commissions.....	26 62	Commissions.....	37 92
	416 62		590 59
Town of East Machias.		Town of Fryeburg.	
Cost of liquors.....	491 88	Cost of liquors.....	272 98
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	14 35	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	4 90
Commissions.....	34 41	Commissions.....	19 10
	540 64		296 98
Town of East Livermore.		City of Gardiner.	
Cost of liquors.....	953 20	Cost of liquors.....	1,792 81
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	16 90	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	44 20
Commissions.....	66 71	Commissions.....	125 22
	1,036 81		1,962 23
Town of Eastport.		Green Vale Plantation.	
Cost of liquors.....	94 25	Cost of liquors.....	36 50
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	4 80	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	0 00
Commissions.....	6 60	Commissions.....	2 55
	105 65		39 05
Town of Eustis.		Town of Greene.	
Cost of liquors.....	80 23	Cost of liquors.....	146 66
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	2 07	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	4 30
Commissions.....	5 62	Commissions.....	10 26
	87 92		161 22
Town of Freeport.		Town of Greenwood.	
Cost of liquors.....	394 56	Cost of liquors.....	404 50
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	6 20	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	12 60
Commissions.....	27 59	Commissions.....	28 30
	428 35		445 40
Town of Farmington.		Hamlin's Grant Plantation.	
Cost of liquors.....	1,823 83	Cost of liquors.....	1,723 12
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	7 70	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	11 20
Commissions.....	127 66	Commissions.....	120 60
	1,959 19		1,854 92
Town of Fayette.		Town of Hartland.	
Cost of liquors.....	243 91	Cost of liquors.....	288 95
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	4 45	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	9 25
Commissions.....	17 07	Commissions.....	20 21
	265 43		318 41
Town of Foxcroft.		City of Hallowell.	
Cost of liquors.....	1,098 84	Cost of liquors.....	694 51
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	12 60	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	3 35
Commissions.....	76 90	Commissions.....	48 59
	1,188 34		746 45
Town of Frankfort.		Town of Hebron.	
Cost of liquors.....	329 80	Cost of liquors.....	254 05
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	12 35	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	8 74
Commissions.....	23 08	Commissions.....	17 77
	365 23		280 56

Statement of Sales to Cities and Towns, (Continued.)

Town of Harmony.		Town of Monmouth.	
Cost of liquors.....	\$518 88	Cost of liquors.....	\$522 96
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	10 00	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	5 10
Commissions.....	36 30	Commissions.....	36 59
	565 18		564 65
Highland Plantation.		Town of Mercer.	
Cost of liquors.....	15 00	Cost of liquors.....	228 73
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	1 40	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	1 80
Commissions.....	1 05	Commissions.....	16 00
	17 45		246 53
Town of Kittery.		Town of Milford.	
Cost of liquors.....	1,291 06	Cost of liquors.....	494 14
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	7 35	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	60 45
Commissions.....	90 36	Commissions.....	34 59
	1,388 77		589 18
Town of Leeds.		Town of Monroe.	
Cost of liquors.....	258 14	Cost of liquors.....	21 18
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	6 85	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	2 55
Commissions.....	18 07	Commissions.....	1 48
	283 06		25 18
City of Lewiston.		Town of Milo.	
Cost of liquors.....	3,068 24	Cost of liquors.....	58 38
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	8 35	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	4 77
Commissions.....	214 76	Commissions.....	4 09
	3,291 35		67 24
Town of Livermore.		Milton Plantation.	
Cost of liquors.....	396 82	Cost of liquors.....	375 69
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	9 10	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	4 72
Commissions.....	27 75	Commissions.....	26 29
	433 67		406 70
Town of Lovel.		Town of New Gloucester.	
Cost of liquors.....	180 84	Cost of liquors.....	517 85
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	5 70	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	18 50
Commissions.....	12 66	Commissions.....	36 25
	199 20		572 60
Town of Lisbon.		Town of Norway.	
Cost of liquors.....	721 28	Cost of liquors.....	1,713 52
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	32 40	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	5 60
Commissions.....	50 51	Commissions.....	119 92
	804 19		1,839 04
Town of Lincoln.		Town of Naples.	
Cost of liquors.....	29 75	Cost of liquors.....	177 33
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	3 20	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	9 30
Commissions.....	2 08	Commissions.....	12 41
	35 03		199 04
Town of Mexico.		Town of New Portland.	
Cost of liquors.....	917 86	Cost of liquors.....	399 70
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	13 57	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	18 20
Commissions.....	64 24	Commissions.....	27 97
	995 67		445 87
Town of Machias.		Town of Norridgewock.	
Cost of liquors.....	2,020 43	Cost of liquors.....	178 19
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	64 57	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	5 13
Commissions.....	141 43	Commissions.....	12 47
	2,226 43		195 79

Statement of Sales to Cities and Towns, (Continued.)

Town of Oldtown.		Town of Ripley.	
Cost of liquors.....	\$1,137 16	Cost of liquors.....	\$281 58
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	12 18	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	1 32
Commissions.....	79 58	Commissions.....	19 71
	1,228 92		302 61
Town of Orono.		Town of Readfield.	
Cost of liquors.....	107 33	Cost of liquors.....	501 87
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	8 23	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	15 95
Commissions.....	13 11	Commissions.....	35 14
	128 67		552 96
City of Portland.		Town of Somerville.	
Cost of liquors.....	5,772 27	Cost of liquors.....	476 75
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	24 45	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	60
Commissions.....	404 00	Commissions.....	33 37
	6,200 72		510 72
Town of Palmyra.		Town of Smithfield.	
Cost of liquors.....	292 73	Cost of liquors.....	157 29
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	7 75	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	4 40
Commissions.....	20 49	Commissions.....	10 80
	320 97		172 49
Town of Paris.		Towns of St. Albans.	
Cost of liquors.....	694 37	Cost of liquors.....	313 30
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	4 80	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	16 60
Commissions.....	48 60	Commissions.....	21 94
	747 77		351 84
Town of Pittsfield.		Town of Skowhegan.	
Cost of liquors.....	551 06	Cost of liquors.....	132 00
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	8 05	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	1 75
Commissions.....	38 57	Commissions.....	9 24
	597 68		142 99
Town of Phillips.		Town of Sumner.	
Cost of liquors.....	638 48	Cost of liquors.....	65 55
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	9 55	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	5 30
Commissions.....	44 69	Commissions.....	4 59
	692 72		75 44
Town of Princeton.		Town of Sidney.	
Cost of liquors.....	116 48	Cost of liquors.....	31 20
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	5 60	Commissions.....	2 18
Commissions.....	8 15		33 38
	130 23		
Town of Palermo.		Town of Springfield.	
Cost of liquors.....	247 15	Cost of liquors.....	162 25
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	7 32	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	5 75
Commissions.....	17 30	Commissions.....	11 35
	271 77		179 35
Town of Richmond.		Town of Turner.	
Cost of liquors.....	689 05	Cost of liquors.....	412 85
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	8 75	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	6 05
Commissions.....	48 23	Commissions.....	28 90
	746 03		447 80
City of Rockland.		Town of Vienna.	
Cost of liquors.....	2,183 08	Cost of liquors.....	637 73
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	6 45	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	5 10
Commissions.....	152 78	Commissions.....	44 64
	2,342 31		687 47

Statement of Sales to Cities and Towns, (Continued.)

Town of Winterport.		Town of Washington.	
Cost of liquors.....	\$714 48	Cost of liquors.....	\$1,227 32
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	11 00	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	41 09
Commissions.....	61 00	Commissions.....	85 88
	786 48		1,354 29
Town of Waterville.		Town of Whitefield.	
Cost of liquors.....	2,256 00	Cost of liquors.....	663 04
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	20 40	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	9 00
Commissions.....	157 92	Commissions.....	46 39
	2,434 32		718 43
Town of Weld.		Town of Wayne.	
Cost of liquors.....	358 32	Cost of liquors.....	502 95
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	29 45	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	9 80
Commissions.....	25 08	Commissions.....	35 20
	412 85		547 95
Town of Woodstock.		Town of Wellington.	
Cost of liquors.....	668 95	Cost of liquors.....	644 89
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	1 40	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	11 10
Commissions.....	46 55	Commissions.....	45 13
	716 70		701 12
Town of Wilton.		Town of Waite.	
Cost of liquors.....	1,046 64	Cost of liquors.....	106 35
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	13 10	Kegs, trucking, &c.....	11 81
Commissions.....	73 26	Commissions.....	7 43
	1,133 00		125 59
Town of Weston.			
Cost of liquors.....	164 94		
Kegs, trucking, &c.....	11 40		
Commissions.....	11 54		
	187 88		

Whole amount of sales.....\$78,571 03
 Whole amount of commissions..... 5,415 25

\$83,986 28

Respectfully submitted,

EATON SHAW,
State Liquor Commissioner.

PORTLAND, December, 1871.